

[illegible]

ABSTRACT

A method is disclosed for reducing or inhibiting alkaline darkening of mechanical pulp caused by the presence of calcium carbonate filler during production; the method comprises adding a sulphite, or sulphur-containing reducing agent, especially a sulphite to the mechanical pulp and the filler; the method is usefully applied in the production of mechanical pulp and paper in which calcium carbonate is used as a filler and also in the production of paper at neutral or mildly alkaline conditions.